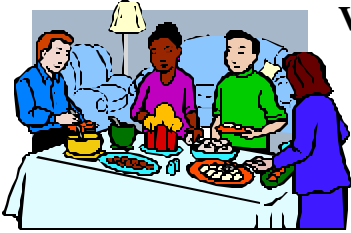


RIST FROM THE MILL FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS
COLVIN RUN MILL HISTORIC SITE
June 2004



Volunteer Dinner, Sunday, June 13

International Night, to complement the *Grains Around the World* exhibit, is the theme for this year's volunteer dinner on **Sunday, June 13 from 5:30 to 7:30** pm in the Colvin Run Barn. Tantalize your taste buds with ethnic cuisine, discover this year's outstanding volunteer and distinguished volunteer, meet new volunteers, review the past year, and learn what's coming in the new fiscal year.

Before dinner, flavor the evening with your around-the-world (or around-the-area) travel stories and photos. Heck, you can even wear your sombrero, beach bikini, jade jewelry, claddagh ring or Mickey Mouse ears. Bring family and friends to share in the fun. Great food, even greater friends, and a surprise or two will make for an exciting evening.



Volunteer Hours

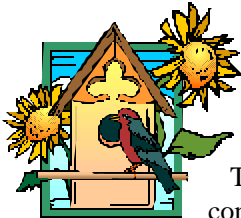
Before June 13, please check the hours you have entered on your volunteer card and add any time that you have devoted to projects or events off site. Also be sure to record hours for any field trips or training you have taken. We want to credit everyone for the time they spend working to further the mission of Colvin Run Mill Historic Site.



Summer Fun

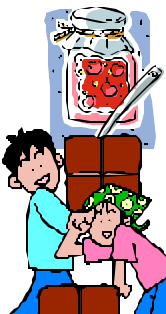
Enclosed is the *Summer Fun* brochure. Ice cream, afternoon family programs plus some special events will keep everyone busy. If you are used to being here bright and early for school groups in the spring, please look at shifting your schedule to help with the afternoon programs between 1pm and 2pm.

Summer camp is filling quickly with the last session in August already full. Even though the site is officially closed on Tuesdays, campers will fill the barn and grounds each weekday through the end of August. Volunteers help with programs for the campers and have lent their special skills to enrich the camp experience. In past summers, Andy Procko has taught the kids how to pan for gold, Lee Boyd has given drawing lessons, and John Dettra has led a sing-along with his dulcimer music.



Volunteers in Action

Thanks to the artistic talents of Diane Moran, we have beautiful bird mills – not to be confused with the more mundane bird houses – to decorate special events, like the volunteer dinner. Diane donated them for the Virginia Association of Museums reception, where they were the hit of the party. We will put them to good use at many future events.



Mary Dettra retrieved her raised-in-the-country knowledge to put up tomatoes in a canning jar for the school program. Now we can show the students that *real* canned tomatoes don't come in tin cans.

Collections catastrophe was averted thanks to Joe Pruden and Catherine Pitcaithley. When maintenance people showed up to clean the ductwork in the general store and miller's house, Dawn called on Joe and Catherine to set up tables and move collections off the floor of the general

store. Then they moved on to the miller's house and shifted collections away from the ducts, covering them with cloths so they would remain dust-free. The work went quickly and nothing was damaged or dirtied thanks to Joe and Catherine springing into action.

Great Falls Day

Colvin Run Mill was well represented at Great Falls Day on May 8. In the old schoolhouse, Dawn Kehrer did a color commentary on toys c.1900-1920, sharing her collection of reproduction toys. She demonstrated the intricacies of a mechanical bank, Jacob's ladder, puzzle cube and wood puzzles. She also displayed an authentic reproduction rag doll that she hand-crafted.



Joe Pruden and Bob and Marge Lundegard represented the Friends of Colvin Run Mill, giving out membership brochures and selling *Almost 100 Recipes Using Cornmeal* and booklets on area mills. But the focus of the displays and the conversation was on the Colvin Run Mill Historic Site capital improvement needs and the forthcoming 2004 FCPA Bond Issue. It was a great opportunity to spread the word on Colvin Run Mill and its programs to the hundreds of Great Falls residents who were there.



Condolences

Clifford Currie died on May 3 at the age of 86. Clifford was the Canadian millwright who oversaw the restoration of Colvin Run Mill in the 1960s. Even after his retirement to Florida, Clifford returned to the mill several times to share his recollections and expand our knowledge of this important milestone in the life of Colvin Run Mill.

Goodbye & Hello

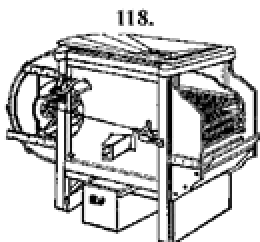
Catherine Pitcaithley was our behind-the-scenes helper, keeping a steady stream of supplies for all the programs and manning the puppets on Mondays. Now that she has finished her high-school internship, Catherine is looking forward to a relaxing summer at home. We'll miss her ready smile and helpful spirit.



Hurray for the return of summer helpers, one of the best things about summer. Erika Johnes, the Sunday general storekeeper, will add weekdays to her schedule, and expects to keep busy learning the store interpretation and helping Terry Tomasulo with new merchandise.

Amy Whipple, soon entering her junior year at Longwood University has returned to us for the summer and will take over store duties on Saturdays, freeing up Renae Smith to work the summer afternoon programs before her departure for her freshman year at Grove City College in Pennsylvania.

Kyle Sullivan is home from the University of Colorado and firing up the blacksmith forge – at least for awhile. He is exploring summer job opportunities doing wilderness work, one of his passions. For now though, he is staying closer to home and working at Colvin Run Mill.



From the Miller's Corner

In the mill attic under a protective sheet is an old fanning mill -- a Fairfax County Park Authority Collections use item. Mason is in the process of refurbishing this fanning mill to demonstrate cleaning corn before grinding on Sundays. Wheat kernels are sometimes mixed in with the corn; putting the corn through the fanning mill ensures that wheat kernels and/or any foreign material are eliminated before the grinding process. For the

past couple of years, Mason has been cleaning the corn with an old fanning mill destined for the dump that he rescued and restored. It is becoming more tired each week. The Collections fanning mill is in better shape and, after refurbishing, will enable Mason to continue cleaning the corn before grinding, ensuring the quality of cornmeal and grits sold at the general store.



Arti-Facts from Dawn

Got Grains? Got Nutrition! is the new Colvin Run Mill exhibit in the Great Falls Library, which averages about 12,000 visitors a month. *Got Grains? Got Nutrition!* explains the benefits of stone-ground whole grains, displays the delicious baked goods that can be made with whole grains and encourages visitors to visit the general store to purchase stone-ground cornmeal and wheat flour.

This is the eighth exhibit Dawn Kehrner has installed (this time with the help of Erika Johnes) to promote different aspects of Colvin Run Mill and the community, informing local residents of the rich history and continuing importance of Colvin Run Mill. Every six months, Ann Korzeniewski and Dawn come up with a concept and plan the outline. Then, Dawn gathers the artifacts and installs a new exhibit in the library hallway near the activity rooms and the rest rooms. Library staff report positive response to the exhibits from both adults and children.



Country Mills

Mary Allen discovered what the Lundegards already knew – finding country mills is not that easy, even when you have the directions. Thanks to a local resident willing to lead our caravan to nearby Cross Mill, the field trip to mills in Harford County, MD.

and York County, PA. was an interesting and productive day. Check your July newsletter for insights on the mills we visited from Bob and Marge Lundegard and Iris Schwartz.

On the Road with Bob and Marge

In Delaware, Bob and Marge explored an old mill that vividly demonstrated the effects of 15 years of neglect on a restored mill. See their enclosure for more details.



REDMILL IN SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE

The Red Mill is located near Lewes on SR 1, which is also listed as SR14, on Red Mill Creek. In the early 1980's the mill was under restoration. New window frames had been installed. The water wheel, made of hand hewn cypress wood, was intact and the roof on the mill was in good condition.

What a change has occurred in the fifteen plus years since the restoration was begun. As you can see from the before and after photos, we have two different mills. The water wheel is gone, although the forebay is in good condition. The foundation of the mill appeared to be solid and firm. All of the window panes have been removed. The building has a faded red metal siding today. The mill is built on the banks of the pond so the mill has been subjected to floods and such. This was a two-three story structure that is desperately in need of repair.

The second floor has been removed, or maybe it just collapsed. The first level floors are beginning to rot. Trees are growing near the foundation and need to be removed so as not to weaken the foundation anymore than it is at the present time. The sign, which once read -OLD MILL- is missing a couple of letters.

The pond is a place where people come to fish. We talked to a couple of fishermen who only knew that this was a great place to fish even though they had not been lucky enough to catch any fish on the day we met them.

